

Delaware: Burden of Chronic Diseases, 1996

Cardiovascular Diseases

- In 1996, cardiovascular diseases were the most common cause of death in Delaware, accounting for 39% of all deaths.
- Rates of death from cardiovascular diseases were 50% higher among men than among women.
- Ischemic heart disease accounted for 1,079 deaths, or 17% of all deaths.
- Rates of death from stroke were 76% higher among blacks than among whites.

Cancer

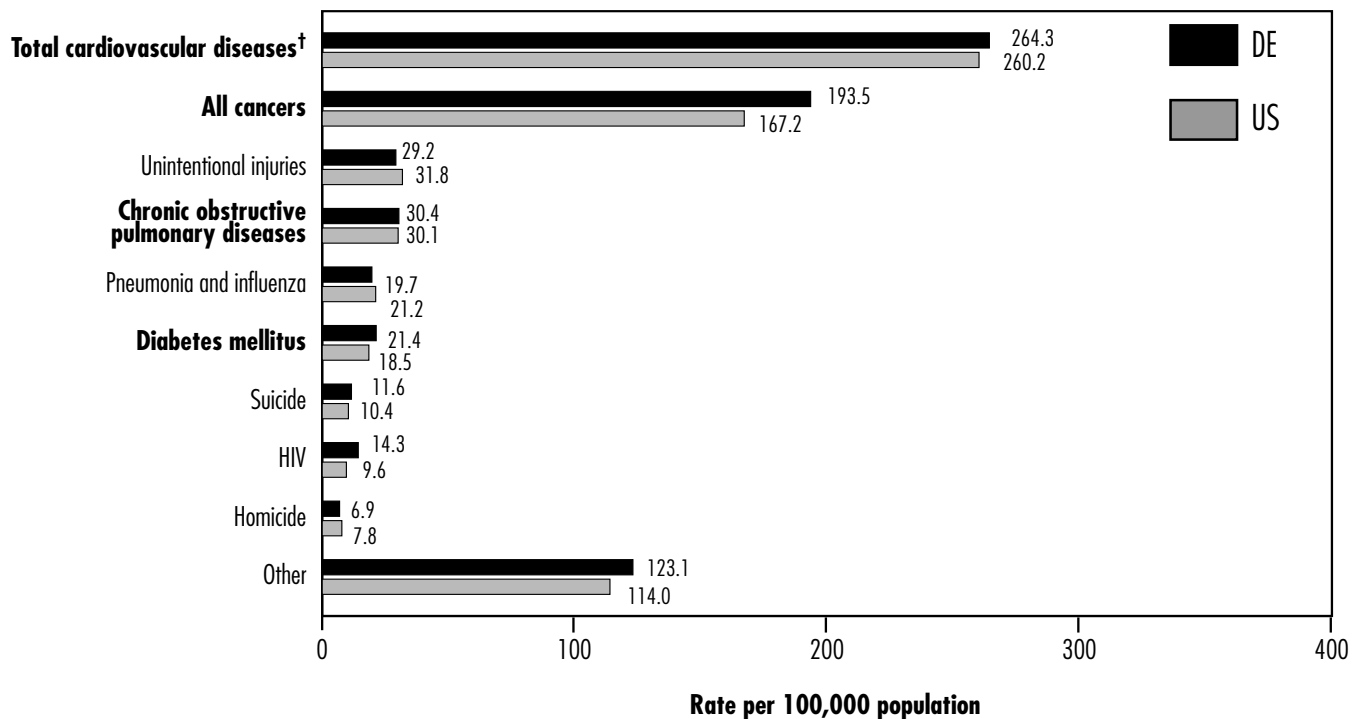
- Cancer accounted for 26% of all deaths in Delaware in 1996.
- Among states, Delaware had the second highest rate of death due to all cancers, the second highest due to lung cancer, and the fifth highest rate of death due to breast cancer in women.

- Rates of death due to colorectal cancer were 59% higher among blacks than among whites.
- The American Cancer Society estimates that 3,800 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Delaware in 1999, including 600 new cases of lung cancer, 400 new cases of colorectal cancer, 500 new cases of prostate cancer, and 500 new cases of breast cancer in women.
- The American Cancer Society estimates that 1,800 Delaware residents will die of cancer in 1999.

Diabetes

- In 1996, 29,144 adults in Delaware had diagnosed diabetes.
- Diabetes was the underlying cause of 192 deaths and a contributing cause of an additional 339 deaths.
- Rates of death from diabetes were 163% higher among blacks than among whites.

Causes of Death, Delaware Compared With United States, 1996*



*Deaths per 100,000, age adjusted to 1970 total U.S. population.

†Total cardiovascular disease rates include rates of death due to ischemic heart disease (114.9 per 100,000 in Delaware and 131.0 per 100,000 in the United States) and rates of death due to stroke (36.3 per 100,000 in Delaware and 42.0 per 100,000 in the United States).

Delaware: Risk Factors and Preventive Services, 1997 and 1998

Risk Factors Among Adults

- In 1998, current cigarette smoking was reported by 33% of Hispanics in Delaware, compared with 24% of blacks and 24% of whites.
- Of all states, Delaware had the ninth highest percentage of adults who reported no leisure-time physical activity.
- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 78% of men and 69% of women.
- According to self-reported height and weight, 63% of men and 44% of women were overweight.

Risk Factors Among High School Students

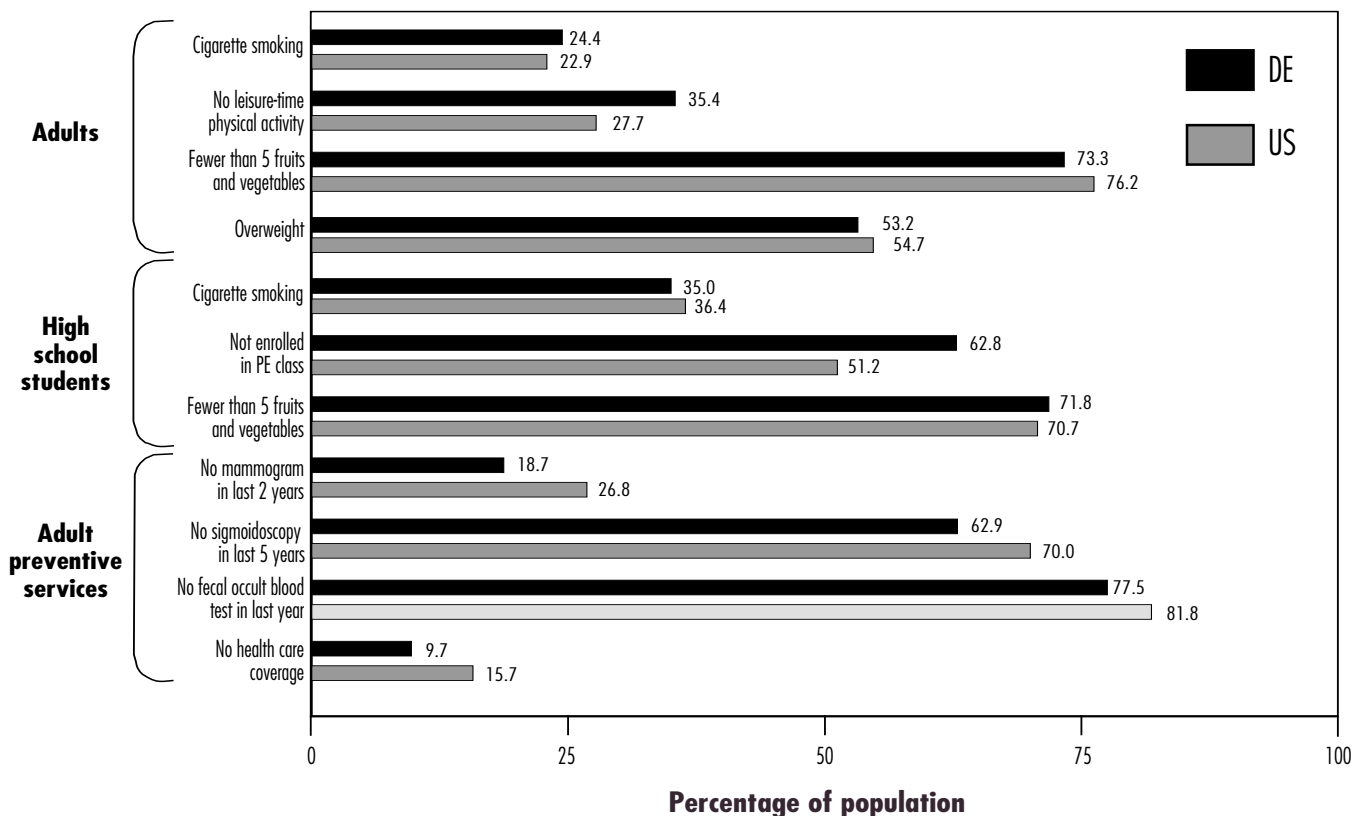
- In 1997, smoking cigarettes was reported by 41% of white students, compared with 20% of black students in Delaware.
- Sixty-six percent of white and 57% of black students reported not being enrolled in physical education classes.

- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 75% of female and 68% of male students.

Preventive Services

- Of women aged 50 years or older, 19% reported not having had a mammogram within the last 2 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 69% of blacks and 62% of whites reported not having had a sigmoidoscopy within the last 5 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 79% of women and 76% of men reported not having had a fecal occult blood test within the last year.
- Among adults aged 18–64 years, no health care coverage was reported by 18% of Hispanics, 15% of blacks, and 9% of whites.

Risk Factors and Preventive Services, Delaware Compared With United States



Source: CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1997 and 1998.
CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 1997.